

allowability of Claims 3 and 4, stated in Paper No. 12 that the rejections in the Office Action dated December 17, 2001 were withdrawn as none of the cited art taught character recognition, and that no response to the Office Action of December 17, 2001 was required. It has never been the intention of the Applicants to give up or waive any subject matter or rights by the previous cancellation and now reinstatement of Claims 1, 2, 5 and 6, now claims 7-10, respectively. As stated by the Examiner during a personal interview of January 23, 2003, and confirmed in Paper No. 14, claims 7-10 will be entered and examined accordingly.

Claim 3 is in independent form. The Examiner rejected Claim 3 as being unpatentable over Zetts in view of Josephson. Zetts discloses a method and apparatus for recognizing the cessation of motion of a pointing device on a display by comparing a group of signals to an anchor point. The device disclosed in Zetts waits until the expiration of its timer before beginning character recognition. Josephson discloses a pen-based computer system and character recognition device. The device disclosed in Josephson does not utilize a waiting timer. Claim 3 has been amended to further clarify that the character recognition and the waiting threshold time occur simultaneously, an element that is neither taught nor disclosed by cited references either alone or in combination. Withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 3 is respectfully requested.

Independent Claim 3 is believed to be in condition for allowance. Without conceding the patentability per se of dependent Claim 4, this is likewise believed to be allowable by virtue of its dependence on its respective amended independent claim. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of dependent Claim 4 is respectfully requested.

Claims 7-10 are believed to be in condition for allowance based on the fact that the only rejections regarding the subject matter of these claims have previously been withdrawn by the Examiner.

Accordingly, all of the claims pending in the Application, namely, Claims 3, 4 and 7-10, are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicant's attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul J. Farrell", written in a cursive style.

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Requirements as per C.F.R. § 1.121 (c)(1)(ii)

Rewritten claim(s) marked up to show all the changes relative to the previous version of claim(s):

3. (Three Times Amended) A character recognition device for recognizing a character input through a touch screen comprising:

a touch screen data recorder for storing touch screen data generated from input of a stroke, wherein said character is recognized in response to said stroke or in response to a plurality of strokes;

a timer for counting a predetermined waiting threshold time when there is no touch screen data generated; and

a character recognition processor for performing character recognition of the stored touch screen data at each time when each stroke is input through said touch screen, wherein all the touch screen data are recognized as a single character when said predetermined waiting threshold time is completely counted,

wherein the character recognition and the counting of the threshold time occur simultaneously.

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